



DE-RISKING MARYLAND'S OFFSHORE WIND MARKET

Overview

To create a sustainable offshore wind industry in the state, Maryland has been investing in de-risking the industry through partnerships and initiatives. These include investing in research and development, education and outreach, financial incentive programs, regional collaboration, and partnering with other state agencies.

Research and Development

Maryland is a member of multiple research membership groups, including the National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium, the Responsible Offshore Science Coalition, and the Responsible Offshore Development Alliance. Through these memberships, Maryland is able to support research projects aimed at better understanding the environmental risks and mitigation strategies for offshore wind development and methods of reducing the levelized cost of energy of offshore wind in the United States while maximizing other economic and social benefits.

Education and Outreach

To effectively prepare the workforce and supply chain for offshore wind development, Maryland has invested in educational resources and programs through the Maryland Energy Administration's Maryland Offshore Wind Workforce Training Program, the Maryland Department of Labor's Maryland Works for Wind Initiative, and partnerships with the Business Network for Offshore Wind.

Maryland Offshore Wind Workforce Training Program

The Maryland Energy Administration ("MEA") offers the Maryland Offshore Wind Workforce Training Program, a financial incentive program provided to workforce training centers, nonprofit organizations, and academic institutions to offset the costs associated with operating an offshore wind training program. The Workforce Training program has resulted in direct training of over 500 individuals and has allowed two workforce training centers to achieve their Global Wind Organization training certifications.

Maryland Works for Wind Initiative

In September 2022, the Maryland Department of Labor received a \$22.9 million grant from the US Department of Commerce's US Economic Development Administration Good Jobs Challenge for the Maryland Works for Wind (MWW) initiative, a regional consortium committed to establishing Maryland as the country's premiere destination for OSW training, fabrication, and employment. MWW will drive economic development, connect underrepresented populations to good-paying careers, and build upon existing investments.

Business Network for Offshore Wind Partnership

MEA has provided multiple grants to the Business Network to help organize an offshore wind business cluster and provide educational resources to Maryland businesses and the public. Through this partnership, the Business Network has created a website; established the Business Networks' Supply Chain Connect database as the official supply chain registry for Maryland; sponsored Offshore Wind 101 webinars, Foundation 2 Blade (F2B) training courses, and business certification webinars; and launched the Maryland Offshore Wind Expert in Residence program.

Market Entry Financial Incentives

MEA offers two offshore wind financial incentive programs, the Maryland Offshore Wind Workforce Training ("Workforce") Program, and the Maryland Offshore Wind Capital Expenditure ("CapEx") Program. The Workforce Program focuses on expanding offshore wind education and workforce development opportunities, while the CapEx Program supports emerging businesses entering the industry by offsetting the high upfront costs. Through this program, MEA has awarded over \$3.3 million to emerging Maryland businesses to enter the offshore wind industry.

Regional Collaboration

Through the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic Regional Transformative Partnership for Offshore Wind Energy Resources, state representatives from Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina collaborate on supply chain and workforce development research, share best practices for supporting local businesses, and provide education and training.

State Agency Partnerships

Maryland uses a whole government approach to develop a viable offshore wind supply chain and workforce. Through the Maryland Offshore Wind Interagency Work Group, consisting of the Maryland Department of Commerce, Maryland Department of Labor, Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Woman Business Affairs, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and the Maryland Public Service Commission the state leverages each agency's strengths to succeed in its offshore wind initiatives and supply chain efforts.



Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

For more information about Maryland's offshore wind projects, visit: www.energy.maryland.gov. or contact Samuel Beirne, samuel.beirne@maryland.gov; or Emma Stoney, emma.stoney@maryland.gov

Maryland's Offshore Wind Group consists of: The Maryland Department of Labor, The Maryland Department of Commerce, The Maryland Department of Natural Resources, The Maryland Public Service Commission, and The Maryland State Governor's Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs and The Maryland Energy Administration.